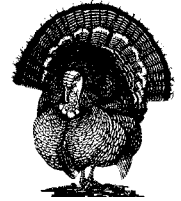




SPRING 2004



WING BEAT NEWS

REGION 2 SACRAMENTO VALLEY-CENTRAL SIERRA COUNTIES

Plumas, Butte, Glenn,
Colusa, Yolo, Solano,
Yuba, Sutter,
Sacramento, San
Joaquin, Calaveras,
Alpine, Amador, El
Dorado, Placer,
Nevada and Sierra



SPRING TURKEY HUNTING

Scott Gardner, DFG wild turkey biologist, says that the 2004 spring turkey season is going to be good. The spring weather in 2003 produced a good crop of young turkeys.

Spring turkey season is from March 27 - May 2, 2004. The spring season bag and possession limit is one bearded turkey per day and three per season. A bearded turkey is one having a beard visible through the breast feathers. An Upland Game Bird Stamp is required by adult license holders to hunt turkeys.

Spring shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to 4:00 p.m.

In California, the Rio Grande turkeys are found in the blue oak covered foothills and sometimes in the Central Valley river bottom habitat. When scouting an area for turkey sign look for tracks, feathers, scratching, dusting areas and droppings. Look for dusting areas with tracks in them or roost trees with droppings and feathers under them. In dry areas, search around water sources for turkey tracks. The best times to look or listen for turkeys include the early morning hours from one-half hour before sunrise until mid-morning, and late in the evening as the turkeys go to roost.

The male turkey gobblers primarily for two reasons: to attract hens for breeding purposes, and asserting dominance. Although more common in the spring, gobblers can be heard throughout the year.

Turkeys also "yelp". Both gobblers and hens, as well as young turkeys (jakes and jennies) will use one form or another of the yelp, often as a basic communication call.

There are many different types of yelps, ranging from quiet tree yelps made by hens while still on the roost, to louder, coarse gobbler yelps made by both adult and juvenile males. The translation of any yelp depends largely on the call's volume, intensity, cadence or rhythm, and frequency, or how often it's repeated or the length of the call's duration. A tree yelp, for instance, may contain only three or four low-volume calls, while a turkey that's become separated from the flock may yelp 18 or 20 times in a row, and with much more enthusiasm and volume.

If you do not hear gobblers calling, try a crow call, owl call, shock call, or predator call in early morning or just before dark. Gobblers will often respond, giving away their location.

The most effective way to call a spring gobbler is by reproducing the sounds a hen makes. The easiest calls to master are the friction calls (box, peg and slate, peg and glass, or push button). Diaphragm mouth calls are the most versatile calls but require much practice.

Beginners should remember that it is better to call more softly than too loudly, and to call more rarely than too frequently. Timing, or rhythm, can be more important than the actual quality of sound.

The best camouflage clothing is both protective and comfortable. Hands, face, and gun should be camouflaged. The illusion of depth is the key to great camouflage clothing. Earth tone colorations and careful arrangement of simulated limbs, leaves, sticks, and twigs in clothing can make one disappear into the surrounding terrain. Never wear clothing that contains the colors red, white, or blue because they can be mistaken for colors found on wild turkeys.

Shot size used to hunt wild turkeys is typically #4, #5, or #6. A turkey hunter shoots for a specific spot on the bird, namely the head and neck. Multiple pellet hits in this area is the best way to bag a wild turkey.

Jakes are 1-year old or younger toms which have spent the fall establishing dominance among themselves. They usually avoid the older toms and come silently to a hen call.

Most of us would like to shoot the biggest, oldest gobbler. He is likely to be the dominant one within a flock. When watching a small group of gobblers in the spring as they approach a hen or come to your calling, look for the long beard that does most or all of the strutting. The other gobblers around the dominant bird will often strut, too, but usually they will not strut as long or as fully fanned.

In addition to establishing hunting regulations that promote healthy wild turkey populations, another key component of the Department's management efforts for wild turkeys is an aggressive trap-and-transplant program. For many years, the Department has expanded the Rio Grande Wild Turkey into many new locations in lower elevation oak woodlands. Most public lands at this elevation now have wild turkeys and the Department has focused transplant efforts on the Merriam's Wild Turkey. This type of wild turkey is adapted for higher elevation habitats, many of which are publicly owned national forests.

Proper Use of Decoys - By the National Wild Turkey Federation

A decoy should never be visible while being transported, cover it. Whenever possible, set-up by a "stand" tree that is wider than your shoulders and taller than your head.

From your seated position, identify the clearest line of vision to your front. Establish a "sight line" that allows you 100 yards visibility. Then set your decoy(s) approximately 20 yards from your position on the line.

Should you see another hunter (especially if he/she is close to your "line of sight") call out to them in a loud, clear voice. Their presence has already compromised your location and a "soft" call may only confuse them, rather than alerting them to your presence. If you are calling over decoys and then elect to move to a new location, check carefully to ensure that no one is stalking your decoys. Check before leaving your "stand" tree. Should you see someone in the area, call out to them in a loud, clear voice.

Places to Hunt Wild Turkeys with a Reservation

(Reservations may only be required for the first weekend or first few days of turkey season)

Spenceville Wildlife Area (11,213 acres) and **Daugherty Hill WA** (4,200 acres) - Both Type C WA's are 20 miles east of Marysville. Permits issued by drawing at the DFG, Region 2 office for Sat., Sun., and Wed., for the first 9 days of spring turkey season. Non-reservation public hunting begins Monday, April 5, 2004. No reservations needed during the fall season. For maps call DFG Region 2 at (916) 358-2900. Drawing Open to All. Hunt Dates: March 27, 28, 31, April 3 and 4, 2004.

Oroville Wildlife Area (11,871 acres -Type C Area) West of Oroville CA. All spring turkey hunting by reservation only. No fall turkey hunting on this area. For maps call DFG, Region 2 at (916) 358-2900. Drawing Open to All. Hunt Periods: March 27-28, April 10-11, and April 24-25, 2004.

How to Apply for Spenceville, Daugherty Hill and Oroville WA's: Fill out a standard, 4x6 US postal card with the hunter's name, address, phone and hunting license number (or see application in this issue of WBN). Include which area you are applying for and your choice of hunt dates in order of preference. Up to **4 hunters** may apply per postcard and both must include their hunting license number. You may submit only one application for each of the three wildlife area drawings. Send completed postcards to: Department of Fish and Game, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, California 95670. All applications must be received by 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 and the computer drawing will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2004. Each successful applicant will receive a permit, map and instructions by March 16, 2004 via mail. Successful applicants will also be posted at the address listed above. Forty spaces per day are available at Spenceville WA, 21 per day at Daugherty Hill WA and 15 per hunt period at Oroville WA.

Lake Sonoma - 14 miles west of Healdsburg. Fall and spring turkey hunting by reservation only. For information contact the DFG, Region 3 at 707 944-5500. No other hunting allowed.

Lake Sonoma Spring Turkey Hunt- Yorty Creek - Drawing Open to All Hunt Date: March 27 and March 28, 2004 Contact: (707) 944-5500 How to Apply: Ten hunters will be drawn for each hunt, and each hunter can take one (1) hunting guest. Applicants may apply for only one hunt day in each season. Fill out a postcard with the hunter's name, address, phone number, hunting license number and hunt date for which you are applying. Send completed postcards (one name per card) to: DFG, Lake Sonoma Spring Turkey Hunt, PO Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599. All applications must be received by 5:00 pm on Thursday, February 26, 2004 and the drawing will be held on Friday, February 27, 2004.

Lake Sonoma "Junior" Spring Turkey Hunt – Liberty Glen - Hunt Dates: April 3 and 4, 2004. Contact: (707) 944-5500. How to Apply: Ten hunters will be drawn for each hunt, and each junior hunter can take one (1) hunting guest. The junior hunter can take either another licensed junior hunter or an adult hunter. Two junior hunters must be accompanied by an adult. Fill out a postcard with the junior hunter's name, address, phone number, hunting license number and hunt day requested. Send completed postcards to: Department of Fish and Game, Lake Sonoma "Junior" Spring Turkey Hunt, PO Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599. All applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, February 26, 2004 and the drawing will be held on Friday, February 27, 2004.

University of California at Browns Valley "Junior" Spring Turkey Hunt - The University of California Field Station is located 20 miles east of Marysville. This is the only hunting offered during the spring season. Fifteen openings for junior hunters are available for each of the 4 hunt days. See application in this issue.

Cache Creek Wildlife Area (3,860 acre of DFG land) and Cache Creek Management Area (85,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake, Yolo and Colusa Counties. Habitat: Oak grassland and dense chaparral. There are 3 access points. 1. North Fork Cache Creek Trailhead; from Interstate Highway 5 at Williams, go west on Highway 20 approximately 33 miles to the parking lot on the south side of the road. The entrance is immediately past where Highway 20 crosses over North Fork Cache Creek. From Highway 101 at Calpella, go east on Highway 20 about 48 miles to the parking lot. 2. Langa Peak Road Access; take Highway 16 south of Highway 20 to County Road 40. Follow the winding switchbacks for 4.5 miles to Langa Peak Road. Langa Peak road is a 4WD road. 3. Davis Street Access; take Highway 53 south off Highway 20 to 40th Avenue and turn left at the stop light. Make immediate left and follow to Davis Street. Access is to the left of the Clearlake landfill entrance. Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, California and mountain quail, mourning dove, tree squirrel, band-tailed pigeon, cottontail and jackrabbit are present. An entry permit for hunting, issued by special drawing by the DFG, is required for the first two days of the spring turkey season. The Payne Ranch (13,000 acres) was recently purchased to improve habitat for wildlife and the tule elk herd. Call the BLM Ukiah office at (707) 468-4000 for a detailed map or the DFG at (707) 944-5500

Cache Creek Management Area Spring Wild Turkey Hunt: Drawing Open to All. Wild turkey hunts for the opening weekend of the spring wild turkey season at Cache Creek Wildlife Area (DFG) and Cache Creek Management Area (BLM) on March 27-28, 2004 will be by permit only, with 40, 2-day permits issued by special drawings. Hunting open to all on Monday, March 29.

Drawing: All applications must be received by 5:00 pm, Thursday, March 4, 2004 to be included in the drawing on March 5, 2004. Applications: Only one application per hunter. Two hunters may apply on one application. Submit a standard Postal Service size postcard (one or two hunters per card) with name & mailing address, telephone number, and hunting license number of each hunter. Mail to: DFG, Cache Creek Spring Turkey Hunt, PO Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599. Successful applicants will be issued a permit by mail. Additional information and a map of the hunt area will be included.

- Plan to attend the 7th annual free turkey hunting training seminar on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004, from 9AM to 4PM at the Fair
- Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd in Fair Oaks. See news article in this issue. Turkey hunting seminars in
- Chico, Oakley, San Pablo, Marysville, Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek have been scheduled. See news article in this issue.

Places to Hunt Wild Turkeys Without a Reservation:

Feather River Wildlife Area - Type C Area - Units are located 23-28 miles north of Sacramento on both sides of the Feather River. This WA is occasionally flooded during spring turkey season. The Lake of the Woods Unit (700 acres) is located 25 miles north of Sacramento and 10 miles south of Marysville on Feather River Boulevard. Walk-in access is south from the Star Bend Fishing Access. The Nelson Slough Unit (800 acres) is located 23 miles north of Sacramento, 17 miles south of Yuba City and under the Highway 99 Feather River Bridge. Access is east or west on Sacramento Avenue. The O'Connor Lake's Unit (471 acres) and the Abbott Lake Unit (439 acres) are 30 miles north of Sacramento and 10 miles south of Yuba City at the east end of Star Bend Road. Park on top of the levee at the end of Star Bend Road. For maps call DFG, Region 2 at (916) 358-2900.

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area - The majority of the Recreation Area lands consists of a narrow strip surrounding Oroville Lake extending a minimum of 300 feet from the high water line to one-half mile or more in some areas. Some U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands adjoin the Recreation Area. Hunting on or from the water surface of Lake Oroville is prohibited. For a map contact the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, 400 Glen Drive, Oroville, CA 95966 or call (916) 538-2200 or 538-2219.

State Game Refuge 1G in Tehama County is open for spring turkey hunting - 45 miles east of Red Bluff via Highway 36. State Game Refuges are normally closed to all hunting. For a map call DFG, Region 1 at (530) 225-2300.

Tehama Wildlife Area (44,601 acres - Type C Area) - Open for hunting all year except that no person shall enter that portion of the Tehama Wildlife Area lying south of Antelope Creek during the period beginning on the first Monday in December through the last Friday in March. Habitat is rolling hills covered with oak trees and brush. All of the area is open for turkey hunting. Deer, wild turkey, coyotes, and California quail, are popular game species. Located 23 miles east of Red Bluff via Highway 36. Call (530) 597-2201 for a map or info.

Black Butte Reservoir (3000 acres) - 25 miles west of Chico via Highway 32 and Newville Road. For a map contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 19225 Newville Road, Orland, CA 95963 or call (916) 865-4781.

Auburn State Recreation Area (30,000 acres) - South of Interstate 80 near Auburn. Hunting is allowed from Sept. 1 to Jan. 31 and spring turkey season. Only shotguns, rifles or bows and arrows may be used. Popular game species include deer, valley quail, dove, bandtail pigeon and wild turkey. Write the Auburn State RA, CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 3266, Auburn, CA 95604 or call (916) 885-4527/988-0205 for maps and information.

New Hogan Lake (400 acres) - 30 miles east of Stockton. For a map contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2713 Hogan Dam Blvd., Valley Springs, CA 95252 or call (209) 772-1343.

Mendocino NF east of Covelo (Mendocino County) and in the Lake Pillsbury area (Lake County). For a map contact the Mendocino NF, 420 East Laurel St., Willows, CA 95988 or call (916) 934-3316.

Indian Valley Wildlife Area (1,600 acres of DFG land) and Indian Valley Management Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Colusa Counties -Habitat: Dense chaparral with small scattered pockets of oak grassland. Access: About 27 miles west of Williams or 14 miles east of Clearlake Oaks on Highway 20 to Walker Ridge Road. Travel north on Walker Ridge Road to Indian Valley Reservoir. Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, waterfowl, California and mountain quail, dove, tree squirrel, cottontail and jackrabbit are present. The BLM has developed two campgrounds with water and restroom facilities. A boat ramp is available at the north and south ends of the lake. Warmwater fishing in the reservoir for largemouth bass, crappie, rainbow trout, bluegill and catfish. Cache Creek below the reservoir is planted with brown trout and is open during trout season. BLM in Ukiah at 707 468-4000.

Cow Mountain Recreation Area (50,000 acres of BLM land) in Lake and Mendocino Counties. Habitat: Rugged chaparral with some oak woodland. Access from Ukiah, 5 miles via Talmage and Mill Creek roads. Access from Lakeport, 5 miles via Scott Creek Road which is a rugged unimproved dirt road, and is closed during the winter due to impassable high water. Because these roads are narrow and winding with steep slopes, large recreational vehicles and travel trailers are not recommended. The rifle range, located just north of the Willow Creek Day Use Site, has been developed specifically for target shooting. There are 5 camping areas. The 27,000 acre North Cow Mountain RA is closed to Off-Highway Vehicles. The 23,000 acre South Cow Mountain Off-Highway Vehicle RA has developed roads for OHV recreation. Open to hunting all year during legal seasons. Deer, bear, wild pig, coyote, wild turkey, California quail, dove, tree squirrel, band-tailed pigeon, cottontail and jackrabbit are present. Bureau of Land Mgt in Ukiah (707) 468-4000.

Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area – Hunting daily during hunting seasons – Type C wildlife area – 8600 acres of oak woodland. Location about 14 miles north of Yreka near the Oregon border. From the south, take the Henley-Hornbrook exit off Interstate 5 and proceed east (right) on Copco Road for about 12 miles to the Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area entrance sign and turn left for ¼ mile to the parking area. California and mountain quail, mourning dove, deer and black-tailed jackrabbits are present. For a map call (530) 459-3926.

National Forests in the Sierras Nevada Mtns.- The lower elevation areas sometimes have turkeys. Purchase a National Forest map and hike the lowest elevation areas looking for turkey sign in the oak groves.

The New Director of Fish and Game is.....

January 20, 2004, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced the appointment of Loris "Ryan" Broddrick to the position of Director of the Department of Fish and Game.

"Ryan's extensive background in conservation and resource management makes him an ideal candidate to lead the Department of Fish and Game," said Schwarzenegger. "During his long time service, Ryan has proven his ability to work with many diverse interests in the service of protecting California's wildlife resources."

Broddrick has worked in the Department of Fish and Game for over 20 years, beginning in 1981 as a game warden and holding a variety of positions before being appointed Chief Deputy Director in 1997. He left the department in 2001 to join the Western Regional Office of Ducks Unlimited as the director of conservation policy. At Ducks Unlimited, Broddrick has been an advocate for wetlands and waterfowl, forging wildlife habitat partnerships between landowners, agriculture, and conservation groups.

During his tenure at the Department of Fish and Game, Broddrick also held the positions of deputy director, regional manager of the Sacramento Valley-Central Sierra Region, and regional patrol chief in the Office of Spill Prevention and Response after serving in a number of law enforcement positions within the department. Prior to joining the department, Broddrick was an environmental scientist with Raymond Vail Associates from 1979 to 1980, and worked for the California Solid Waste Management Board from 1974 to 1979. He also served as a member of the Bay Delta Advisory Committee where he chaired subcommittees on ecosystem restoration and working landscapes.

"I am extremely grateful that Governor Schwarzenegger has given me this opportunity to continue my work of ensuring the biodiversity and conservation of California's wildlife and habitats," said Broddrick.

The California Department of Fish and Game manages California's diverse fish, wildlife and plant resources, and habitats for their ecological values and enjoyment by the public. The Department also manages oil spill prevention programs and enforces environmental laws such as the California Endangered Species Act. Over 2,000 employees work for the Department with a budget of over \$279 million.

Turkey info on the internet – www.nwtf.org

The National Wild Turkey Federation is a half million member non-profit organization in 50 states, Canada, and 11 other countries for the promotion of wild turkey conservation and hunting. Click on to their web site for info on California turkey events and banquets, turkey news, tips and adventures, conservation projects, women in the outdoors and info for JAKES (Juniors Acquiring Knowledge, Ethics, and Sportsmanship).

Gray Lodge Clean Up and Field Day Saturday, April 3, 2004

Here is an opportunity to give back to Gray Lodge what waterfowl hunters and outdoor enthusiasts have benefited from over the past year. California Waterfowl Association (CWA) is seeking volunteers for light duty clean up and wood duck box inspection. Plenty of activities will also be available to children of all ages. All family members are encouraged to participate as the day will be educational, entertaining, and most importantly, improve the quality of our wildlife habitat. Mike Womack, Gray Lodge Manager, will also provide an update of trends in local/state refuge and wetlands management.

Start time is 8:30 a.m. Coffee, Juice and breakfast snacks will be provided prior to hitting the field with an excellent barbecue lunch, raffle, and silent auction ending the day, around mid afternoon. A small fee of \$7.50 per person/\$5.00 for kids 16 and under will be charged to those eating lunch to help offset food costs.

What you need to do:

1. RSVP to the address below (preferred), or sign up at the check station and/or include a check for food if applicable.
2. Bring outdoor work clothes, boots, and chest waders if you have them.
3. Bring Tools (gloves, hammer, pruning shears, rakes, shovels, etc.)

For more information, please contact Phil Fischer (925) 827-7953 (day), (925)672-3475 Evening, or via email at: Philfischer@sbcglobal.net

Registration Form - Please detach and mail to: Phil Fischer
140 Mount Whitney Way
Clayton, CA 94517

Name: _____ Are you interested in becoming a CWA member ? Yes • No •

Address: _____

Number of attendees: _____ Attendees eating lunch: _____ X \$7.50 \$ _____
Kids eating lunch: _____ X \$5.00 \$ _____
Additional contribution to assist CWA \$ _____

Total \$ _____

FREE WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEMINARS

Chico - Chico Sportsmen's Den, 465 East 20th Street.. **Wed., March 10 at 6:00PM.** Speaker is Mike Walters from Hunter Specialties. Will discuss scouting, general turkey knowledge, locating turkeys, calling and camouflage. More Info: Contact Dave or Duane at 530 891-5238.

Marysville – Long's Drug Store next to Albertson's – Sat. March 13, 10 AM and 2 PM, Speaker – Rich Krona from Mad-Lohman Pro Staff. More info: Call Barry at 530 742-3206

Oakley - Hook, Line and Sinker, 3100 Main Street. **Sat. March 13, 10 AM and 1:30 PM.** Speaker is Mike Walters from Hunter Specialties. Will discuss scouting, general turkey knowledge, locating turkeys, calling and camouflage. Call 925 625-2441 for further info.

Walnut Creek - Woolley's Sporting Life, 1684 Locust St., Date undetermined at press time. More Info: 925 939-5455.

San Pablo – The Bow Rack, 1085 Broadway Ave. Date undetermined at press time. More info: 510 236-8303.

Pleasant Hill – Hogan's Sporting Goods, 1500 Contra Costa Blvd. Thurs. Feb. 19 at 7 PM. Buzz Whalen, Past President of the NWTF Cal Chapter will speak. More info: 925 686-1985.

Turkey Hunt at Englebright Lake for "Mobility Impaired Hunters"

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Englebright Lake (20 miles east of Marysville) is offering wild turkey hunting opportunities for "mobility impaired hunters". A "mobility impaired hunter" is defined as any person who has been issued a Department of Motor Vehicles, "disabled license plate, or permanent parking placard identification card", or a "Disabled Veteran" license plate, or a valid "Mobility Impaired Disabled Persons Motor Vehicle Hunting License" (FG form 1460).

The blue plastic "Disabled Parking Placard" may not be substituted for the required "Identification Card" which bears the name of the mobility impaired person. Disabled hunters must provide the registration certificate for DMV issued disabled license plates.

How to Apply: Send a note with the hunter's name, address, phone/hunting license numbers and a copy of proof of "mobility impairment" to: DFG, Englebright Lake MI Hunt, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. A non-hunting companion is recommended.

List the following weekends in order of preference and availability: March 27-28; April 3-4; 10-11; 17-18; 24-25; and May 1-2. Only 3 hunters will be drawn.

FREE WILD TURKEY HUNTING TRAINING SEMINAR IN SACRAMENTO

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) in cooperation with Wilderness Unlimited (WU) and the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) will sponsor the seventh annual Wild Turkey Expo. The turkey hunting seminar will be on Saturday, February 28, 2004, 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, California.

The popular, free event, which has drawn standing-room-only crowds, will provide comprehensive information on wild turkey biology and hunting, with a strong focus on hunting turkeys on public land. Topics include locating the birds, where to hunt turkeys on public land, calling, turkey habits, camouflage, the use of shotguns and archery equipment, cooking that bird, and equipment demonstrations. Kittles Outdoors and Sports Co. will be on hand to show you the latest equipment, clothing and everything you will need for turkey hunting. Other like-minded organizations will share information about other hunting opportunities.

Veteran turkey hunter Terry Knight, who is also a writer for many popular outdoor publications, will be a featured speaker at the event and will instruct how to use turkey calls, decoys, archery and shotgun hunting techniques, and camouflage methods. Knight has served as the president of the California State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and operated a successful turkey guiding business for more than 11 years. He annually conducts several training seminars on hunting wild turkeys throughout Northern California.

Dan Stahlman, an expert turkey hunter and gunsmith will discuss shotgun selection and shooting, patterning your shotgun and the proper loads to use. Back by popular demand, there will be a seminar on archery hunting for turkeys by Ron Sneed. Also, champion turkey caller, Bruce Wurth, owner of American Friction which manufactures turkey calls, will be on hand to demonstrate his award-winning calls. A question and answer period will follow.

DFG's wild turkey biologist Scott Gardner will offer insight to hunters and naturalists on the wild turkey's habitat and where to find them on public lands. In addition to Gardner, other DFG personnel will be available to answer questions.

The seminar is free and open to the public. Lunch will be provided for a \$5.00 donation. For more information contact Susan Herrgesell, Program Coordinator, California Department of Fish and Game (916) 653-7448 or sherrges@dfg.ca.gov. Terry Knight can be reached at (707) 263-1699 or at tknight@pacific.net.

Mountain Lion Sightings Rarely Spell Trouble

In the wake of the Jan. 8 mountain lion attacks involving two Orange County cyclists, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of reported mountain lion sightings statewide, the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) reports.

The increase in reported sightings is not, however, being attributed to a change in mountain lion behavior, but rather the public's perception, says Doug Updike, a DFG senior wildlife biologist. "It's typical for reported sightings to spike after a high-profile incident such as an encounter or attack. We saw the same phenomenon after the two fatal mountain lion attacks in 1994," Updike said.

Each time the DFG receives a report of a mountain lion sighting, a Wildlife Incident Report is filed. On average, more than 400 Wildlife Incident Reports related to mountain lions are filed annually. The reports document everything from unverified lion sightings to legitimate safety concerns. Only about 3 percent of these reports result in a mountain lion being identified as an imminent threat to public safety and killed under the DFG's Wildlife Public Safety Guidelines.

The vast majority of these reports (79 percent) are resolved by providing information about the natural history and behavior of mountain lions. Another 18 percent of cases are legitimate threats posed by mountain lions that can be resolved by modifying human behavior – bringing pets inside at night, or installing motion activated outdoor lighting, for example. "A big part of our response to public concerns about mountain lions involves education," says Updike. "The statistics point to an information gap, because in most cases, information about mountain lions is all that is needed to resolve the issue."

More than half of California is considered mountain lion habitat; as a general rule, mountain lions live wherever deer are present. People are observed by lions far more frequently than lions are observed by people. Studies of radio-collared mountain lions show that lions tend to avoid people. Given the fact that there are well over 30 million people and thousands of mountain lions in California, encounters between people and lions are infrequent and attacks are extremely rare.

The DFG has issued the following recommendations for avoiding encounters with a mountain lion, as well as what to do if attacked by a mountain lion:

WHAT IF YOU LIVE IN LION COUNTRY?

- **DON'T FEED WILDLIFE:** By feeding deer, raccoons or other wildlife in your yard, you may inadvertently attract mountain lions, which prey upon them.
- **DEER-PROOF LANDSCAPE:** Avoid using plants that deer prefer to eat; if landscaping attracts deer, mountain lions may be close by. The California Department of Fish and Game has a brochure entitled "Gardening To Discourage Deer Damage" available at most DFG offices.
- **LANDSCAPE FOR SAFETY:** Remove dense and/or low-lying vegetation that would provide good hiding places for mountain lions, especially around children's play areas; make it difficult for mountain lions to approach a yard unseen.
- **INSTALL OUTDOOR LIGHTING:** Keep the house perimeter well lit at night – especially along walkways – to keep any approaching mountain lions visible.
- **KEEP PETS SECURE:** Roaming pets are easy prey for hungry mountain lions. Either bring pets inside or keep them in a kennel with a secure top. Don't feed pets outside; this can attract raccoons and other mountain lion prey.
- **KEEP LIVESTOCK SECURE:** Where practical, place livestock in enclosed sheds and barns at night, and be sure to secure all outbuildings.
- **KEEP CHILDREN SAFE:** Keep a close watch on children whenever they play outdoors. Make sure children are inside before dusk and not outside before dawn. Talk with children about mountain lions and teach them what to do if they encounter one.

WHAT TO DO IF ENCOUNTERING A MOUNTAIN LION?

- **DO NOT HIKE ALONE:** Go in groups, with adults supervising children.
- **KEEP CHILDREN CLOSE TO YOU:** Observations of captured wild mountain lions reveal that the animals seem especially drawn to children. Keep children within your sight at all times.
- **DO NOT APPROACH A LION:** Most mountain lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- **DO NOT RUN FROM A LION:** Running may stimulate a mountain lion's instinct to chase. Instead, stand and face the animal. Make eye contact. If there are small children there, pick them up if possible so they don't panic and run. Although it may be awkward, pick them up without bending over or turning away from the mountain lion.
- **DO NOT CROUCH DOWN OR BEND OVER:** In Nepal, a researcher studying tigers and leopards watched the big cats kill cattle and domestic water buffalo while ignoring humans standing nearby. He surmised that a human standing up is just not the right shape for a cat's prey. On the other hand, a person squatting or bending over looks a lot like a four-legged prey animal. When in mountain lion country, avoid squatting, crouching or bending over, even when picking up children.
- **APPEAR LARGER:** Raise your arms. Open your jacket if you are wearing one. Again, pick up small children. Throw stones, branches, or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak firmly in a loud voice. The idea is to convince the mountain lion that you are not prey and that you may be a danger to it.
- **FIGHT BACK IF ATTACKED:** Many potential victims have fought back successfully with rocks, sticks, caps, jackets, garden tools and their bare hands. Since a mountain lion usually tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the attacking animal.

For more information, visit the DFG mountain lion Web Site at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lion/index.html>

Portola Rotary Clubs Lake Davis Fishing Derby

The weekend of June 12-13, 2004 is the date for this popular annual event that offers **guaranteed monetary prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places**. Also includes prizes from local merchants and others! Entry fee is \$20.00 per person. All proceeds will be used to provide scholarships and fund local community needs. This terrific community event gives all of us a great excuse to spend the day outdoors! Pre-register by calling Dave @ (530) 836-1680 or you can sign up at the Lake the day of the event. See you there!

SPECIAL "JUNIOR" TURKEY HUNT - Spring 2004

April 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th

University of California - Sierra Foothill Research & Extension Center 8279 Scott Forbes Road - Browns Valley, CA 95918-9636

1. This junior turkey hunt is sponsored by the U.C. Sierra Foothill Research & Extension Center and the Department of Fish and Game Gamebird Heritage Program. Hunters will be selected by lottery. The cost is \$20.00 per hunter (no cost until selected). A current junior hunting license is required. Each junior hunter, or junior hunting party, must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult.
2. A drawing will be held on **March 3rd, 2004**. If your name is drawn, you will receive notification by March 10th. Only one application per junior hunter. Up to two junior hunters may be selected together as a party and they should submit their applications together. **It is important to carefully read the application and follow the instructions.**
3. **Policy Statement** - If you participated in this hunt last year (April 2003), you will not be eligible to participate in this year's program. This will give more junior hunters an opportunity to participate in this program. If you still possess a Jr. License next spring, you will be eligible once again.
4. An orientation tour of the area is available the evening before each hunt, but it is not required. You will be able to scout your assigned area that evening, following orientation, until dark.
5. If you have any questions, call the Department of Fish and Game at (530) 743-5068. Applications can be copied for others interested in the lottery.

(Complete this section and return — **Please print neatly**)

Name: _____ Jr. Hunting License # _____
or scheduled Hunter Safety Course completion date

Address: _____

City	State	Zip	Area Code	Home Phone
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If available, would you like an experienced turkey hunter to accompany you and your adult companion? **YES** **NO (Circle One)**

Date Choice: April 17_____, April 18_____, April 24_____, April 25_____

(Mark 1, 2, 3, & 4 for date preferences, 1 for first choice, 4 for last, and N/A for dates not available)

Mail to: U.C. Junior Turkey Hunt, 8279 Scott Forbes Road, Browns Valley, CA 95918-9636 (or) Fax to: (530) 639-2419

Illegible or incomplete applications will be disqualified.

California Waterfowl Association, Kids Camps

CWA volunteers are continuing the week-long K.I.D.S. (Knowledge, Independence, Discovery, Sportsmanship) Camps in 2004. Four camps are being offered with two beginner and two advanced. During the camps, youths ages 10 to 14 participate in a variety of recreational activities, including fishing, swimming, shooting, and archery. They also receive daily instruction about hunter safety. At the end of the beginner camps, students complete their hunter safety test and receive their hunting license. Throughout the week, youths also receive information about wildlife programs, recreational areas, and ways to be active conservationists.

Camps are held at Red Bank Ale & Quail Game Bird Club near Red Bluff.

Dates for this year's camps are:

Camp #1 - Beginning - June 13-18, 2004

Camp #2 - Advanced - June 20-25, 2004

Camp #3 - Beginning - July 11-16, 2004

Camp #4 - Advanced - July 18-23, 2004

A limited number of scholarships for \$400 are available for the beginning camps. To be considered, submit a letter explaining why you want to come to camp. Send your letter to Judy Oswald, 2520 Regatta Court, Davis, CA 95616. Letters must be received by May 21, 2004, to be considered. Plan ahead for next year. For an application, contact cwaeducation@calwaterfowl.org.

FISHING AT THE WILDLIFE AREAS

When was the last time you got together with a friend or child and fished? There are several public wildlife areas with lots of fish and fishing holes. Places where you can pack a lunch or supper and have a great time fishing, watching wildlife and exploring the wildlife habitat. Call (916) 358-2900 to request a wildlife area map booklet.

Gray Lodge WA - Ten miles east of Gridley - There are several ponds and miles of canals with bass, perch, crappie, catfish and carp. The area is open seven days a week after waterfowl season closes in early February.

Oroville WA - West of Oroville - Bass, bluegill, green sunfish, crappie, and channel catfish are available in the numerous dredger ponds and Thermolito Afterbay. The Feather River has shad and striped bass in April and May; and salmon from May through September. The Thermolito Afterbay outlet into the Feather River is a popular fishing location.

Upper Butte Basin WA - Little Dry Creek Unit - 12 miles west of Gridley on the Gridley-Colusa Highway to Parking Lot 1. **Howard Slough Unit** - 11 miles west of Highway 99 and 5 miles east of Butte City on Highway 162. Both areas provide access to Butte Creek and many canals. Species include bass, catfish, and bluegill. Butte Creek is closed to salmon fishing. Foot and bicycle traffic are allowed beyond the parking lots. Be sure to watch for boundary/closed zone signs.

Spenceville WA - 19 miles east of Marysville - There are 6 large ponds, numerous smaller ponds in all of the drainages, Dry Creek, Little Dry Creek and Cox Creek to fish in. Bass, bluegill and catfish are available.

Sutter Bypass WA - 20 miles west of Yuba City - Access from Highways 20 and 113, Bogue Road, Hughes Road, Sacramento Avenue and numerous other county roads. Bass, catfish and bluegill are available through out the year in either the east or west bypass channels. Salmon are common in October and November.

Grizzly Island WA - 6 miles south of Fairfield on Grizzly Island Road - Fishing is daily from February 3 to July 27, 2003 and daily in September, after the close of the tule elk season. From October 1 until the end of the waterfowl hunting season, fishing is allowed only in Montezuma Slough. Fishing is available all year at the nearby Island Slough WA, Montezuma Slough Unit (Beldon's Landing), and Hill Slough WA. Striped bass and sturgeon are the common fish.

Yolo Bypass WA - 3 miles east of Davis - Open 7 days a week during the non-waterfowl season from sunrise to sunset. Bass, catfish and bluegill are available in the slough.

White Slough WA - About 7 miles west of Lodi and 13 miles north of Stockton. The area is a series of 9 rectangular ponds running parallel and west of Interstate 5.

TROUT RELEASE INFORMATION AVAILABLE BY TELEPHONE

Are you planning a vacation and want to go fishing where you will have a good likelihood of catching some trout? Find out when and where the Department of Fish and Game has, or will be releasing trout by calling the numbers listed below. Trout planting info covering the area of the western side of the Sierra Mountains from Calaveras County north is at (916) 351-0832; Northern California - (530) 225-2146; and the Coastal Counties from Mendocino to San Luis Obispo - (707) 944-5581.

Become a Volunteer...Gray Lodge Wildlife Area's Wood Duck Nest Box Program

This is an opportunity to gain experience working directly with wildlife, participate in the largest wood duck nest box monitoring program in the state and become part of the Gray Lodge family of volunteers and staff! This program has an added bonus of experiencing the beauty of Gray Lodge's remote areas.

Here's your chance to contribute back to the wildlife. Working closely with a section leader, you will experience wildlife up close. Don't miss this unique opportunity. Crews of two to three collect detailed data taken to understand and enhance the local wood duck population and other wildlife, including wrens, kestrels and owls. Although the work can be challenging at times, it is also a great deal of fun. Don't let these photographic moments pass you by. Maintenance checks are conducted every other week from March to July. Most section checks take three to four hours.

The orientation meeting is Saturday, March 20, 2004 - 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Wear comfortable clothes, we will check a few boxes at the end of the orientation. Make your reservation today! (530) 846-7505

Bowfishing at Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

Bowfishing will be allowed in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area for the month of April 2004 only! This opportunity offers another way to use your wildlife areas. Yolo Bypass WA is located east of Davis off of Chiles Road on Co. Road 32.

Bowfishing will be limited to the North East Unit in the wildlife area. This 780 acre unit consists of permanent ponds and various drainage canals. Access to the North East Unit is from Parking Lot F. Please park only in this lot to access bowfishing area. DFG laws and regulations pertaining to bowfishing apply and Area regulations must be followed. Please check area bulletin board for special regulations. All carp must be removed from the wildlife area.

For questions and comments please contact Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Manager, Dave Feliz at 530-757-2431.

APPLY FOR BIG GAME TAGS TO MEET THE DRAWING DEADLINE

Do you plan to apply for antelope, elk, bighorn sheep or deer tags this year? The drawing deadline date for applying is months away but now is the time to mark your calendar to remind you of the June 2, 2004 drawing date. Applications must be received at the License and Revenue Branch (LRB) in Sacramento by 5:00 p.m. on that date.

Hunting licenses and deer tag applications will be available at DFG offices and license agents by mid-April. Also available at that time will be the DFG's "Big Game Hunting" Booklet which will contain applications for antelope, deer, elk and bighorn sheep drawings. The "Mammal and Furbearers Hunting Regulation" booklet will be available in mid-May. Information may also be obtained from the DFG web page at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lrb>. **As of February 2004, the LRB was not selling hunting and fishing licenses at the 3211 S Street office in Sacramento.** Licenses are still being sold at DFG, Region 2, 1701 Nimbus Road in Rancho Cordova. For more info call the LRB at (916) 227-2245.

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR DFG WEB SITE: www.dfg.ca.gov

Can't find your copy of Wing Beat News! Go to the DFG web site and click on "Publications". You will find the past 2 years of Wing Beat News. Also under "Publications" is info on Fishing in the City Lakes and "TRACKS" articles. Click on "Hunting in California" and you will find waterfowl drawing info, waterfowl hunt results on public hunt areas, Game Bird Heritage Special Hunts, Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve Hunting info and more.

RABBIT SEASON HERE JULY 1 (proposed) WILDLIFE AREAS OFFER MANY HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

California hunters are looking forward to another rabbit season. The proposed season begins July 1 and extends through January 30, 2005 for cottontail, brush, pygmy and snowshoe rabbits. Jackrabbit season remains open year round.

Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. The best time to hunt rabbits is early morning and at sunset, when they're most active. The aggregate limit of brush, cottontail, snowshoe and pigmy rabbits is five per day, and 10 in possession statewide. There is no limit for black-tailed and white-tailed jackrabbits. Most shotguns, archery and rifles (including air rifles firing pellets, excluding BB's, powered by compressed air or gas) are legal for rabbit hunting.

Each year, California hunters report the harvest of about 85,000 cottontails and 75,000 jackrabbits.

Rabbits are famous for speed, which is why they're so much fun to hunt. Jackrabbits hide by "freezing" in cover, but once they're jumped they head for open country. Cottontails run in a big circle after they're jumped, so many hunters will use a dog to trail the rabbit while the hunter waits for it to return. Look for rabbits in brushy, rocky areas where they can hide from predators. Brushy, stream side habitat is also a favorite. Wildlife areas along the major rivers provide some of the best rabbit hunting.

If you are interested in creating brush piles or rock piles for rabbit habitat that will provide game for years to come, call Wildlife Biologist Dale Whitmore at (530) 743-5068 and ask for tips on where and how to make a wildlife brush pile. A sportsmen club or eagle scout project on either public or private lands is a project which will produce wildlife for years to come.

Rabbits vary greatly in size, from less than a pound for a pygmy rabbit, to more than 10 pounds for a white-tailed jackrabbit. There are seven species of rabbit in California.

Recommendation- The Feather River Wildlife Area units located between Sacramento and Marysville-Yuba City had an abundance of cottontail rabbits in 2003. The combination of no flooding since 1997, good habitat, and favorable spring weather for upland game species produced an abundance of rabbits. If the 2004 spring flooding is not severe, this should be another very good year. Bring your shotgun (no rifles or pistols are allowed), be there at daylight, enjoy the sunrise and good hunting.

Most of the Department's wildlife areas are open to rabbit hunting. There may, however, be restrictions to the method of take. For a complete listing of state and federal wildlife areas open to hunting, refer to the 2003/04 *California Regulations For Hunting and Other Public Uses On State and Federal Areas* (online only at www.dfg.ca.gov). For complete hunting regulations consult the 2004-2005 *California Hunting Regulations, Mammals and Furbearers* which may be available at all Department of Fish and Game offices and license agents in June.

DFG Implements New Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has begun implementation of the new Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp (Senate Bill 692). Beginning Jan. 1, 2004, all anglers fishing in specified waters in the Delta, the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, including major tributaries, and the San Francisco Bay east of the Golden Gate Bridge will be required to possess the \$5 (plus any applicable tax) stamp.

The new Bay-Delta Stamp will supercede the Striped Bass Stamp.

Revenue from sale of the stamp will be used only for long-term, sustainable sport fishing benefits in the geographic area where possession of the stamp is required. A nine-member advisory committee appointed by the Director of DFG will recommend projects for the expenditure of revenue received by the sale of the stamp. Projects are likely to include improvements to sport fishing access, enforcement of angling regulations, sport fish population and fisheries monitoring, habitat improvement, and environmental education. Committee members will be nominated by individual anglers and associations representing anglers affected by sale of the stamp. All committee meetings will be open to the public.

The stamp was developed in conjunction with several stakeholder groups, including representatives from United Anglers, California Sport Fish Protection Alliance, Northern California Federation of Fly Fishers, and Recreational Fishing Alliance. Development of a strategic plan for expenditures and on-going implementation of the program will be through collaboration with the advisory committee, experts, and sport fishing interests from throughout the area affected by sale of the stamp.

"Working with angler representatives to develop this multiple-species program has been an exciting and successful process," said Perry Herrgesell, Chief of DFG's Central Valley Bay Delta Branch. Bob Strickland of United Anglers concurred. "I am glad to be part of the group putting this stamp together and I think we can do some good work with it," Strickland said.

Anyone fishing in the following areas will be required to possess the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp:

1. The tidal waters of San Francisco Bay and Delta. The areas east of Golden Gate Bridge and into the San Francisco and San Pablo bays, and Carquinez Strait.
2. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta B This includes all rivers, sloughs, canals, cuts, forebays, and flooded islands within the area south of Interstate 80, west of Highway 99, north of I-580, I-205, and I-120, and east of I-680. This area includes the Cosumnes River west of Highway 99.
3. The Sacramento River below Keswick Dam, the Feather River below Oroville Dam, the Yuba River below Englebright Dam, the American River below Nimbus Dam, the Cosumnes River west of Highway 99, the Mokelumne River below Camanche Dam, the Calaveras River below New Hogan Dam, the San Joaquin River below Mendota Dam, the Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam, the Tuolumne River below LaGrange Dam, and the Merced River below Crocker-Huffman Dam.



CALIFORNIA WOOD DUCK PROGRAM BANQUET April 3, 2004

The California Waterfowl Association organizes this event to fund the Wood Duck Box Program. Last year about 7000 wood duck boxes were monitored by 500 volunteers and over 30,000 ducklings were hatched. Since 1991 well over 180,000 ducklings have been hatched.

Please come out and support our wood ducks! This terrific event will be held in Fairfield on **Saturday, April 3, 2004**. Doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner is at 7:00 pm. The location and menu where not available at press time but you can contact CWA for reservations or more information (916) 648-1406. Hope to see you there!

SUISUN MARSH FIELD DAY SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2004

The California Waterfowl Association has organized an entertaining and informational field day at the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area located 15 miles south of Fairfield.

Take Highway 12 to Grizzly Road and turn south to the wildlife area headquarters.

Admission to the event is FREE, with a BBQ lunch and refreshments available at an additional charge. It runs from 9am-5pm. There will be a youth waterfowl calling contest as well as many other activities for the children. Wildlife artists, decoy carvers, dog trainers, duck callers, and manufactures representatives will be some of the people on hand. For more info call CWA @ (916)648-1406.

February 2004

- 1/30-1 San Mateo International Sportsmen's Expo Youth Fair, San Mateo County.
\$ (360) 693-3700
- 1/30-1 Jr. Pheasant Hunt, San Luis Obispo County. (805) 238-4236
- 4-8 San Diego Bay Bird Festival, San Diego County. \$ (877) 763-5483
www.sandiegonaturefestivals.org
- 13-15 California Duck Days, Yolo County. \$ (530) 757-4826
- 13-15 Pacific Southwest Wildlife Arts, California Open, San Diego County. \$ (760) 945-8442
- 13-16 Salton Sea International Bird Festival, Imperial County. (760) 344-5359
- 21 Youth Trapshooting Clinic, Sacramento Trapshooting, Sacramento County. \$
(916) 481-1336 www.sacramentotrap.com
- 21 Jr. Turkey Hunt, El Mirage, San Bernardino County. (909) 627-1613
- 26-29 Pleasanton International Sportsmen's Exposition Youth Fair, Alameda County. \$
(360) 693-3700



March 2004

- 6-7 Jr. Wild Pig Hunt, Joice Island, Solano County, age 12 or older. (707) 425-3828
- 6-7 Mendocino Whale Festival, Mendocino County. (707) 961-6300
- 10 Youth Trapshooting Clinic, Sacramento Trapshooting, Sacramento County. \$
(916) 481-1336 www.sacramentotrap.com
- 13-14 Mule Deer 2004-New Horizons, Silver Legacy, Reno, NV. (888) 375-3337 www.muledeer.org
- 15 California Jr. Duck Stamp Contest Deadline. (530) 934-2801, (916) 648-1406 www.calwaterfowl.org
- 20-21 Fort Bragg Whale Festival, Mendocino County. (707) 961-6300
- 26-28 Aleutian Goose Festival, Crescent City, Del Norte County. \$ (800) 343-8300 www.aleutiangoosefestival.org

April 2004

- 3 Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Cleanup, Butte County. Free (530) 846-7500
- 3 Earth Day Festival at the Sacramento Zoo, Sacramento County. \$ (916) 264-5888
- 3-4 Jr. Turkey Hunt, Lake Sonoma. (707) 994-2024
- 3,10 Jr. Turkey Hunt, Tejon Ranch, Kern County. (559) 243-4005 ext. 132/133
- 14-18 Yuma Birding & Nature Festival, Yuma County, AZ. \$ (928) 376-0100 www.yumabirding.org
- 17-18 Jr. Turkey Hunt, Browns Valley, Yuba County. (530) 743-5068
- 17, 24 Jr. Turkey Hunt, Tejon Ranch, Kern County. (559) 243-4005 ext. 132/133
- 24-25 Earth Day Festival at the Los Angeles Zoo, Los Angeles County. \$ (323) 930-5266
- 24-25 Jr. Turkey Hunt, Browns Valley, Yuba County. (530) 743-5068
- 16-18 Godwit Days Migratory Bird Festival, Humboldt County. \$ (800) 908-9464 www.godwitdays.com
- 30-5/2 Kern Valley Bioregions Nature Festival, Kern County. \$ (760) 378-3044 http://frontpage.lightspeed.net/KRP/field_trips.htm
- TBA Return of the Terns, Bolsa Chica Reserve, Orange County. (714) 846-1114
- TBA Heron Days Festival, Lake County. \$ (707) 994-2024 www.redbudaudubon.org/events.htm

Youth in the Outdoors enjoys the following sponsors:

California Department of Fish and Game, California Waterfowl Association, Quail Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Sacramento Trapshooting Club, The Mule Deer Foundation, National Audubon Society – California, The National Wild Turkey Federation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Partner information is available at:
www.dfg.ca.gov/yo/index.html

"Youth in the Outdoors" – A partnership to facilitate the conservation, enhancement, and restoration of our fish and wildlife and habitats through the education of our youth in California's outdoor heritage.

Free Gun Locks

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has begun distributing nearly 100,000 gun lock free to new hunters and firearm owners through its statewide hunter education training program. The giveaways are part of Project ChildSafe, a national safety education effort designed to make homes with firearms safer by raising awareness in ownership and storage.

DFG, the California State Sheriff's Association and the California Police Chief's Association will distribute 1.2 million cable-style gun locks through the program managed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation. The two law enforcement associations have already forwarded gun locks to local police and sheriff's departments.

Free gun locks can be picked up at the DFG Region 1 office at 601 Locust Street, Redding; the Region 2 office at 1701 Nimbus Road off Hazel in Rancho Cordova; and the Region 3 office at 7329 Silverado Trail, Napa. Most local police and sheriff's departments have them, also.

Hunter Education Training Schedule

Persons interested in going hunting this fall should be making plans now to take their required hunter safety course. Hunter education courses must include at least 10 hours of training in both hunter safety and wildlife conservation. Some courses also include shooting practice at a range. Volunteers teach the courses and may charge a fee of up to \$10 per person. For upcoming courses contact any of the applicable numbers below or the following numbers for your area. No. California and No. Coast Region (530) 225-2003; Sacramento Valley and Central Sierra Region (916) 351-0833; Central Coast Region (707) 944-5576; San Joaquin Valley and So. Sierra Region (209) 243-4027; or So. California Region (562) 590-5670.

Hunter safety courses are also offered through local sporting goods stores, city or county recreation departments, shooting rangers or other hunting related businesses. The following is a list of classes already scheduled for the areas shown.

Northern Calif. – North Coast Region

Crescent City 707-464-7157
Eureka 707-443-6328
Red Bluff 530-528-8819
Redding 530-225-1025
Redding – Home Study 530-225-2300
Susanville- Home Study 530-251-2136

Sacramento Valley - Central Sierra Region

Auburn & Lincoln 530-878-6937
Rancho Cordova 916-351-0538
West Sacramento 916-617-4620
Stockton 209-937-8206
209-823-7919
Placerville 530-644-2797
Elk Grove 916-686-1852
El Dorado County 530-622-3794

530-622-2480
Roseville 916-728-5500
Vacaville 707-449-4867
Chico 530-896-9935
Gridley 530-868-5547
Cameron Park 530-677-6996
Grass Valley 530-273-4440
Yolo County 530-662-3372

530-662-2349
530-662-4873
530-666-3752
Yuba City/Marysville 530 743-1518
530-751-7767
530-671-9250

Oroville 530-533-2011
Paradise 530-877-5114
Portola 530-832-5372
Chester 530-258-2415

530-596-4115
Quincy 530-283-1378
Rio Linda 916-991-5929
Rocklin 916-632-4100
Hamilton 530-826-0532

530-826-3261
Willows 530-934-2638
Diamond Springs 530-622-3794

Alameda County

Castro Valley 510-569-0213
C.V. / Livermore 925-216-7269
925-447-6682

San Leandro 510-638-9605
Dublin 925- 828-6416
Hayward 510-785-4868

Contra Costa County

Brentwood 925-625-4347

Don Kelly
Brad Smith
Bob Barney
Marshall Jones
Monthly - pick up packet at DFG office, 601 Locust St. Redding
Cliff Bannister for dates

Monthly
Monthly
Monthly
Monthly
Monthly-Manteca Sportsmen's Club
Monthly
Monthly- Mike Green
Monthly-Bill Adams or
Monthly- Jim Russell
Monthly-Brad Gunter
Monthly-The Shooting Gallery
Monthly-Butte Co. Search & Rescue Building
March 6, 2004 Gene Perry or Larry Hamman 846-2575
Private Classes- Vern Luce
Monthly-The Range-Fred Pfadt
Monthly-Knights Landing Sportsmans Club,
Yolo Sportsmans Assoc.
Mike Russow
George Gumpy
Terry Oaks,
Monthly- Joe/Joan Becker
Monthly-Chuck Wyllie
Nelson Recreation Center- Jason Sehon
Paradise Sporting Goods, Larry Mane
Sylvia Olsen
Dave Gonyer or
George Orloff
Harry Howsden
Rio Linda Rec Center
Rocklin Community Services-Brett Mattix
Kieth Dietle

John Hays
Daimond Springs Fire Dept.-Bill Adams

First Saturday of every month-Chabot Gun Club
Neal Kernes
Lorrie Ambrosino-Feb - May

Monthly – San Leandro Optimist Club Rifle & Pistol Range
Buck Buchanan
Wilderness Unlimited – Ray Hedval

Rod & Chris Jenneihan

Concord	Register in person	United Sportsman, Inc. – Pete Margiotta Register at 4770 Evora Rd., Concord Concord Sportsman Inc.- Cliff Ames Martinez Gun Club Scott Youell The Bow Rack – Salvatore Di Marco
Martinez	925-685-5437 925-372-9599 925-229-4867	
San Pablo	707-425-2618	
Lake County		
Upper Lake	707-275-3354 707-275-9304	Clifford Shick – when enough sign up. Joe Diaz
Lakeport	707-263-1585	Phil Phillips – Tentative class 2 nd week of June
San Francisco County		
San Francisco	650-588-0924	Pacific Rod & Gun Club, John Brusco Jan , Mar, May, July & Aug. classes
San Mateo County		
San Mateo	650-343-1280 650-341-0429	Coyote Point Shooting Range John Galloway – Mar, May & Sept. classes Jackson Arms, Bill Tidwell Sunnyvale Rod & Gun Club – Sol Silverstein
So San Francisco	510-713-8907	
Cupertino	408-972-2360	
Santa Clara County		
Morgan Hill	408-842-7578	Coyote Valley Sporting Clays – Mar.-Nov classes Santa Clara Field Sports Park -Sol Silverstein Feb. May & Aug. classes Reed's Indoor Range- Feb.-Oct. classes
San Jose	408-972-2360	
Santa Clara	408-970-9870	
Santa Cruz County		
Santa Cruz	831-423-0548 831-772-4812	Gary Lease Bob Wilt
Solano County		
Dixon	707-678-9155	Dixon Game Conservation Club - John Reichel - Feb, Mar, May, July, Sept & Oct
Vallejo	707-642-9094	Warren Madison
Suisun	707-425-2618	Salvatore DiMarco – Apr. 17 & 18
Vacaville	707-449-4867	The Shooting Gallery – Mar – Dec.
Napa/Sonoma County		
Sonoma	707-938-5473	Valley of the Moon Trap Club Officer Steve Moore
Healdsburg	707-431-3377	Napa Rifle & Pistol Club-Sam Grow
Napa	707-648-0410	Steele Lane Comm. Center – Mar. June
Santa Rosa	707-543-3282	Black Point Sporting Clays
Petaluma	707-769-8235	
San Benito County		
Paicines	800-209-5175	Rock Springs Ranch
Lake County		
Hidden Valley	707-987-8180	Classes pending Phil Phillips
Lakeport	707-263-1585	
Marin County		
San Rafael	707-769-8235	Bullseye Shooting Range – Feb-Nov Henry Hernandez
Mendocino County		
Ukiah	707-485-0297 707-463-0434	Ukiah Elks Club, Richard Turner Ukiah Gun Club-Robert Fuchs
Monterey County		
Chualar	831-679-5965	Jim Miller
Prunedale	831-663-3224	Bob Monahan – Apr, Jun, Aug.
Hunter-Liggett	831-386-2522	Alfonzo Sanson
Monterey Area	831-626-6586	Geoff Malloway
San Luis Obispo County		
Atascadero	805-461-5624	Santa Lucia Sportsmen's Assoc.-Jim Berman Mar, July, Sept. classes San Luis Obispo Sportmen's Assoc Classes held when enough students sign up. Madelene Farris Classes held when enough students sign up. Todd Tognazzini Paso Robles Cenntinnial Park – Dennis Doberneck Mar, May, July, Aug & Sept. classes San Miguel Lion's Club, Frank Nations Santa Maria Gun Club, Jim Banakus Begins first Mon. in May, June, July, Aug. & Oct. Trini Martinez - Begins second Mon. in Sept. Tom Martinez - Wed. evenings
San Luis Obispo	805-541-3338 805-543-0429	
Cambria/Paso Robles	805-467-3209 805-237-3988	
San Miguel	805-467-3209	
Santa Maria	805-937-2441 805-346-2214 805-934-5737	

Hunter Safety Bowhunting Classes

Challenge	530-534-0977	Darryl McElmurry
Yuba City	530-671-9250 or 530-751-7767	Chuck Wyllie & Gene Kreb
Stockton	209-463-8860	Joe Becker
Grass Valley	530-268-3549	John Watters
Esparto	530-787-3259	Dave Deacon
Roseville	916-723-6792	Marshall Myers
Rocklin	916-635-6759	Robert Moore
	916-630-8700	Jim Williams
		Wilderness Archery

CWA - Wood Duck Field Day

Have you ever thought about how you can help to conserve wildlife here in California? Here is a great opportunity to learn how you can get involved in a great ongoing conservation effort which benefits wildlife throughout the state. The **California Waterfowl Associations'** California Wood Duck Program (CWDP) will be hosting two wood duck training days this spring. These training sessions are great opportunities for anyone interested in learning more about wood ducks and how to properly manage for them. The sessions will include an educational slide show, scenarios one might encounter while checking boxes, instruction on keeping accurate nesting records, hands on box monitoring instruction, and more. **The first field day will be held at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area on Saturday, March 6, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The second session will be held at the Cosumnes River Preserve on Saturday, April 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** These sessions are free, so bring the family and a lunch and enjoy a day of learning more about wood ducks.

The California Wood Duck Program was initiated in 1991 to provide an educational forum to promote preservation and enhancement of forested wetlands as well as to increase California's local wood duck population through the installation and monitoring of wood duck nest boxes. The CWDP is a cooperative program of California Waterfowl Association, California Department of Fish and Game, and University of California at Davis. For more information contact CWA Biologist Jeremy Kwolek at (916) 648-1406 or jeremy_kwolek@calwaterfowl.org.

"Ask a Game Warden"

By Lieutenant Liz Schwall

Question: I will be accompanying some friends to their pheasant club. I plan to take my dog to use in locating and retrieving birds. Since I will be directing the dog in the hunting, am I required to have a hunting license? I will not be carrying a firearm.

Answer: The question really is: "Is a dog considered to be a means of take?" The answer lies in section 311(n) of the California Code of Regulations/Title 14. This section says, "Dogs may be used to take and retrieve resident small game". In other words, section 311(n) states; that dogs ARE considered to be a means of take. Therefore, a person controlling the dog and actively directing the dog to find game, would need a hunting license. In the case of dogs working on pheasant clubs (farm raised birds) it's not that uncommon for dogs to actually grab the bird before it flies.

Safest bet ... either get a hunting license or let someone else (who is licensed) work the dog.

Question: I have read that you may only have three shotgun shells in your gun when hunting. If this is so, why are shotguns sold with larger magazines that accommodate five or six shells?

Answer: Hunters using shotguns to take waterfowl, small game or game birds, or big game species are restricted to using shotguns that can hold no more than three shells (magazine and chamber combined). However, persons hunting non-game species are not restricted to three. Non game species may be taken with a shotgun that can hold up to six shells. Additionally, many people who own shotguns are not hunters at all, they may be trap or skeet enthusiast, and hence shotguns are manufactured and sold with larger magazine capacities.

Question: I have a fifteen year old who will turn sixteen this coming November. He has his Junior license for 2003-2004. Does he need to purchase an adult license to hunt after his 16th birthday in November (i.e. pheasant and waterfowl seasons)? If not, does he need duck stamps on his junior license after he turns sixteen?

Answer: Your son may continue to use his junior hunting license until June 30, 2004. He will not need to purchase a state duck stamp or an upland bird stamp this year. However, he will need to buy a federal duck stamp if he hunts waterfowl after his 16th birthday.

Free Northern California Wildlife Area Maps - June 2003 Edition

Free maps for the following public lands **are available** at 1) Dept. of Fish and Game, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916 358-2900), 2) DFG Licenses, 3211 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95816.

The following maps are available as a booklet: Tehama WA-Tehama Co., Sacramento River WA - Glenn/Butte/Colusa Co., White Slough WA - San Joaquin Co., New Hogan Lake - Calaveras Co., Oroville WA - Butte Co., Putah Creek WA - Solano Co., Indian Valley WA - Colusa/Lake Co., Black Butte Lake - Tehama/Glenn Co., Abbott/O'Connor Lakes Units - Sutter Co., Nelson Slough Unit - Sutter Co., Sacramento Bypass WA - Sacramento County, Lake of the Woods Unit - Yuba Co., Sutter Bypass WA - Sutter Co., Colusa Bypass WA- Colusa Co., Fremont Weir WA- Yolo Co., Auburn State Recreation Area- Placer Co., Daugherty Hill WA - Yuba Co., Spenceville WA - Yuba/Nevada Co., Clifton Court Forebay - Contra Costa Co., Napa-Sonoma Marshes WA, Sacramento Valley Waterfowl Area Map, Gray Lodge WA - Butte Co., Clear Lake Area Public Lands Maps, Boggs Mtn State Forest, Jackson State Forest, Gray Lodge WA- Butte Co., Upper Butte Basin WA- Butte Co., Yolo Bypass WA- Yolo Co., Grizzly Island WA - Solano Co., and the Delevan, Colusa, Sutter, and Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuges. There are also plans for making wood duck and bluebird boxes.

Internet - DFG homepage: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>
 DFG, Hdqtrs, 1416 Ninth St., Sacto, 95814 (916)653-7664
 Conservation Education (916) 653-6420
 Inland Fisheries (916) 653-6194
 Marine Resources (916) 653-6281
 Natural Heritage (916) 324-0565
 Personnel (916) 653-8120
 Project Wild/Aquatic (916) 653-3857
 Wildlife Management (916) 653-7203
 Wildlife Protection (916) 653-4094
 Mountain Lion Emergencies (916) 445-0045
 DFG, *Region 1*, 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001, (530) 225-2300, FAX (530) 225-2381.
 DFG, *Region 2*, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916) 358-2900, FAX (916) 358-2912.
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 DFG, *Region 6*, 330 Golden Shore, Suite 50, Long Beach, CA 90802, (562) 590-5132, FAX (562) 590-5152.
 DFG, *Region 7*, 20 Lower Ragsdale Dr., #100, Monterey, CA 93940 (831) 649-2870
 DFG, License and Revenue Branch, 3211 S Street Sacramento, CA 95816 (916) 227-2177 / 227-2244
Wildlife Areas: Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, 3207 Rutherford Rd., Gridley, CA 95948 (530) 846-7500
 Grizzly Island Wildlife Area, P.O. Box 368 Suisun CA 94585 (707) 425-3828
 Oroville/Spenceville Wildlife Areas, 945 Oro Dam Blvd Oroville, CA 95965 (530) 538-2236
 Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area, P.O. Box 190 Butte City, CA 95920 (530) 982-2169
 Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, 45211 County Rd 32B Davis, CA 95616 (530) 757-2461

CalTIP - Californians Turn in Poachers
 1-888-DFG-CALTIP (1-888-334-2258)
 DFG Hunter Education Information
 Program Administrator (916) 653-1235
 Region 1, Coordinator (530)225-2304 Rec (530) 225-2003
 Region 2, Coordinator (916)358-2908 Rec (916)351-0833
 Region 3, Coordinator (707)944-5544 Rec (707)944-5576
 Region 4, Coordinator (559)222-3761, Ext 124 Rec 243-4027
 Region 5, Coordinator (562)590-5185 Rec (562)590-5670
 Upland Game Bird Publications (Quail, Pig and Turkey Guides)
 1-916-653-GAME.

Farming for Wildlife Brochure -
 Contact Dave Smith at (916) 653-7203.
 Fishing in the City Stocking Program (916)358-2872 (Sacto)
 Sport Fishing Information 1-800-ASK-FISH (275-3474)
 Wild Trout Project Newsletter (2x/year) c/o Stan Stephens, Editor
 8530 W. Roosevelt Ave, Visalia, CA 93291-9458 (209) 651-1710
 Trout Planting information
 Sacramento Valley-Central Sierra (916) 351-0832
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 Coastal Counties (Mendocino to San Luis Obispo)
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Sacramento NWR, 752 County Rd. 99W, Willows, CA 95988
 (530) 934-2801

To report a BIRD BAND call 1-800-327-BAND

Wing Beat News-San Joaquin Valley, Contact Los Banos WA,
 18110 W. Henry Miller Ave, Los Banos, CA 93635

Wing Beat News-Sacramento Valley, Contact DFG-Gray Lodge
 WA, 3207 Rutherford Rd., Gridley 95948 (530) 846-7500
 glwla@dfg.ca.gov

Valley Care Newsletter (free)-Ducks Unlimited, 3074 Gold Canal
 Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6116 (916)852-2000

For National Forest maps and information contact the following
 offices. Many of the offices carry maps of several forests. Most
 maps are \$6 each.

Mendocino NF, 825 N. Humboldt Ave., Willows, CA 95988
 (530) 934-3316

Plumas NF, P.O. Box 11500, 159 Lawrence St., Quincy, CA 95971
 (530) 283-2050

Plumas NF, 875 Mitchell Ave., Oroville, CA 95965 (530) 534-6500
 Tahoe NF, P.O. Box 6003, Hwy 49 and Coyote St., Nevada City, CA
 95959 (530) 265-4531

El Dorado NF Information Center, 3070 Camino Heights Drive,
 Camino, CA 95709 (530) 644-6048

Stanislaus NF, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA 95370 (209)
 532-3671

Shasta-Trinity NF 2400 Washington Ave, Redding, CA 96001
 (530) 246-5222

Six Rivers NF 507 E. Street, Eureka, CA 95501 (707)442-1721
 Lassen NF 55 S. Sacramento St., Susanville, CA 96130

(530) 257-2151
 Modoc NF, 441 N. Main St., Alturas, CA 96101 (530) 233-5811

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, CDPR, 400 Glen Drive,
 Oroville, CA 95966, (530) 538-2200/538-2219

Auburn State Recreation Area (30,000 acres), CDPR, P.O. Box
 3266, Auburn, CA 95604, (530) 885-4527/988-0205

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers properties open for hunting:
 Black Butte Lake, USACE, 19225 Newville Road, Orland, CA
 95963-8901, (530) 865-4781.

Englebright Lake, USACE, P.O. Box 6, Smartville, CA., 95977,
 (530) 639-2342.

New Hogan Lake, USACE, 2713 Hogan Dam Blvd, Valley
 Springs, CA 95252, (209) 772-1343.

Lake Mendocino, USACE, 1160 Lake Mendocino Dr, Ukiah, CA
 95482 (707) 462-7581

Lake Sonoma, USACE, 3333 Skaggs Springs rd., Geyserville, CA
 95441-9483 (707)433-9483 (Special hunts by reservation only)

Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation areas open for hunting:
 New Melones Lake, Bureau of Reclamation, 6850 Studhorse
 Flat Road, Sonora, CA 95370, (209) 536-9094.

Department of Forestry property open for hunting;
 Jackson Demonstration State Forest - 50,200 acres, 802 N. Main
 St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437 (707)964-5674

Boggs Mtn. Demonstration State Forest -3,493 acres, P.O. Box
 839 Cobb, CA 95426 (707) 928-4378

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 Bakersfield, 800 Truxton Ave, 93301 (805)861-4191

Susanville, 705 Hall St, 96130 (530) 257-5381
 Redding, 355 Henstead Dr., 96001 (530)246-5325

Folsom, 63 Natoma St., 95630 (916) 985-4474
 Riverside, 1695 Spruce, 92507 (714)351-6383

Carson City, NV, 1050 E. Williams St, 89701

Cow Mtn/Kings Range Recreation Areas/Cache Creek Public
 Access, 2550 N. State St., Ukiah 95482-3023 (707)468-4000

WHAT'S INSIDE!

1-3	Spring Turkey Hunting	8	Bowfishing at Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
4	And the New Director of DFG is...	9	Apply for Big Game Tags
4	More Turkey Information on the Internet	9	Check out our DFG website!
4	Gray Lodge Clean Up Day	9	Rabbit Hunting Information
5	Free Turkey Seminar in Sacramento	10	New Bay-Delta Fishing Stamp
5	More Free Turkey Hunting Seminars	10	CWA Wood Duck Program Banquet
5	Mobility Impaired Turkey Hunt at Englebright Lake	10	Suisun Marsh Field Day
6	Mountain Lion Sightings Rarely Spell Trouble	11	Youth in the Outdoors Calendar
6	Portola/Lake Davis Fishing Derby	11	Free Gun Locks
7	UC Sierra Foothill Jr. Turkey Hunt	12-13	Hunter Safety Education
7	CWA Kids Camp	14	Bowhunting Hunter Safety Education
8	Fishing at Wildlife Areas	14	CWA Wood Duck Program Field Day
8	Trout Release Info by Telephone	14	"Ask a Game Warden"
8	Become a Volunteer at Gray Lodge	14	Free No. Calif. Map booklets
		15	Information Page

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